

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the set of claims within the Application, please cancel, amend, or add each claim as hereinafter indicated.

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) An oil filtering device for use in an in-line oil filtering configuration, said oil filtering device comprising:

a filter part having a micro-filtration device for filtering ~~[[said]]~~ oil, wherein said filter part has axial end faces ~~of the filtering part that~~ are formed by ~~[[the]]~~ said micro-filtration device;

a filter housing ~~comprising~~ having a lid ~~and adapted for removably retaining said filter part;~~

a clamping mechanism for removably securing said lid ~~[[to]]~~ onto said filter housing;

an inlet port defined in said filter housing and situated outside said filter part for facilitating inward radial flow-filtering of said oil through said micro-filtration device;

an outlet port defined in said filter housing and adapted for fluid communication with a substantially cylindrical interior space of said filter part; and

~~internal, substantially flat filter end face contacting faces for axially closing a passage of oil; and~~

~~a closing face integrated into an insert member accommodating irregularities in shape of the housing at an axial side of the insert member opposing the closing face~~

a closure member having a contacting face substantially adapted for sealingly engaging one of said axial end faces of said filter part;

wherein said closure member has an open bore defined therethrough for enabling said oil to flow into said inlet port, through said open bore, into said interior space of said filter part, and out through said outlet port so as to permit at least some of

said oil to bypass said micro-filtration device of said filter part altogether during said use of said oil filtering device.

12. (Currently Amended) An oil filtering device according to claim 11, wherein an oil passage closing face is integrated into ~~[[a]]~~ said filter housing ~~[[part]]~~.

13. (Currently Amended) An oil filter filtering device according to claim 11, wherein a radial thickness of ~~[[the]]~~ said micro-filtration device is larger than a radial thickness of ~~[[its]]~~ said interior space of said filter part within said filter housing.

14. (Currently Amended) An oil filter filtering device according to claim 11, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ said micro-filtration device has a diameter substantially equal to that of ~~[[the]]~~ said filter part.

15. (Currently Amended) An oil filter filtering device according to claim 11, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ said filter housing ~~comprises~~ has a dimple on its inner surface for positioning ~~[[the]]~~ said filter part in said filter housing.

16. (Currently Amended) An oil filter filtering device according to claim 11, wherein ~~the oil~~ said inlet port is positioned radially outside ~~[[the]]~~ said filter part.

17. (Currently Amended) An oil filter filtering device according to claim 11, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ said micro-filtration device has a diameter substantially equal to that of ~~[[the]]~~ said filter part, ~~and wherein the~~ said filter housing ~~comprises~~ has a dimple for positioning ~~[[the]]~~ said filter part, ~~and wherein the oil~~ said inlet port is positioned radially outside ~~[[the]]~~ said filter part.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) An oil filter filtering device according to claim 11, comprising wherein said open bore defined through said closure member serves as a by-pass mechanism to ~~provide~~ that provides at least a minimum flow of said oil through the filter said filtering device at substantially all times during said use.

20. (Currently Amended) An oil filter filtering device according to claim 19, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ said by-pass mechanism ~~comprises~~ further includes a spring or a valve.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) An oil filter filtering device according to claim ~~[[21]]~~ 11, wherein ~~at least one of the closure members~~ said closure member includes a cylindrical notch adapted to fit in said cylindrical interior space of said filter part.

23. (Currently Amended) An oil filter filtering device according to claim ~~[[21]]~~ 11, wherein ~~the at least one~~ said closure member contacts the inner surface of said filter housing by way of a spring.

24. (Currently Amended) An oil filter filtering device according to claim 11, comprising ~~a by-pass mechanism formed by an aperture provided in a closing member which sealingly engages an axial end face of the filter part, the aperture connecting the~~ wherein said open bore defined through said closure member fluidly connects said interior space in ~~[[the]]~~ said filter part to ~~[[a]]~~ an in-housing space that is exterior to said filter part.

25. (Currently Amended) An oil filter filtering device according to claim ~~[[24]]~~ 11, wherein ~~said by-pass comprises~~ bore defined through said closure member has a valve mechanism that is movable between a closed position at a lowest operating oil pressure ~~[[to]]~~ and an open position as a function of increasing operating oil pressure.

26. (Currently Amended) An oil ~~filter~~ filtering device according to claim 25, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ said valve mechanism is pressure dependent and comprises an elastically deformable device providing an internal passage which opens up as a function of increasing oil pressure.

27. (Canceled)

28. (New) An oil filtering device according to claim 11, wherein said open bore defined through said closure member is particularly a valveless bore.

29. (New) An oil filtering device according to claim 11, wherein said filter part further has a perforated tube that lines the inner surface of said micro-filtration device and thereby defines said substantially cylindrical interior space of said filter part.

30. (New) An oil filtering device according to claim 22, wherein said open bore is particularly defined through said notch of said closure member.